



This *Hints and Tips* page is for use with Quiltsmart's Market Bag instructions, available to purchase at your local quilt shop or online at [www.quiltsmart.com](http://www.quiltsmart.com).

# Market Bag

## Hints & Tips - for Your First Market Bag

**Interfacing Panel:** *The Market Bag Interfacing Panel has been updated from the original version. It now has marks representing arrows, pins, clip marks, pleat lines and selvage edges...so easy! If you have the original print without these additions, you can still use it, but disregard the dashed line at the bottom. Read this hints and tips page, and you will be just fine.*

**Yardage Chart:** *The back cover yardage chart calls for 1 yard of fabric. The bag measures 32.5" from side to side - dashed line to dashed line, prior to folding and sewing. The extra fabric can be used to cover a hard bottom for the bag (referenced in "options" on the side flap of the instructions).*

**STEP 1 tips:** For your first bag, a single piece of fabric (1 yard) with a non-directional print is suggested. Fold the fabric so that it is **right sides together**. Use contrast lining and directional prints only after you are comfortable with making the bag. Use the entire WOF (width of fabric) for your bag (this is different from the the original set of instructions)! The width of the fabric will determine the depth of the bag, so you want to use the entire width of your fabric for as deep a bag as possible.  
**Contrast Lining:** *The easiest way to make a contrast lining bag (or rather 2), is to buy 2 yards, cut them both on the fold, then resew them back together right sides together. Then, treat the seam as the fold for the remainder of the instructions. Again, use the entire width of the fabric... there is no need to cut the fabric. prior to fusing the interfacing.*

**STEP 2 tips:** Trim the interfacing along the 3 perimeter dashed lines. Above the top dashed line is the phrase, "Trim along dashed line and match to fabric fold or seam." The reason that "seam" is mentioned is if you are using a contrast lining. Fuse with steam 5 to 10 seconds by setting (not sliding) the iron on the interfacing.

**STEP 4 tips:** Please disregard the last 2 sentences (from "Sew on solid lines, ...to lines as in bag."). This step is done in Step 3 - sorry!

**STEP 5 tips:** The skinny pocket is an alternate for the larger pockets, and can go wherever you would like...in fact, even though there are placement guides for the the two larger pockets, you may place those in other areas if you prefer. It's your bag... have fun and be creative with it! Close the opening in the pocket (from turning it) by sewing with a machine or by hand. You can sew it at the same time that you sew the pocket to the bag, too.

**STEP 7 tips:** The updated interfacing has pleat lines to guide in the folding of the pleats. Lay the bag flat and open with the handles to one side. Then, fold the sides (one is a fold and one is a seam) to the pleat line. Sew the short ends of the bags (the red dashed lines in the illustration in the instructions), sewing across the folds. For added strength, sew a half-inch seam instead of a quarter inch seam.

**STEP 11 tips:** Just overlap the handles about a half inch (at the fold or seam), and stitch two lines (or a box) through all thicknesses.